

The Socorro Chieftain.

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THE NATIONAL FORESTS

Many Improvements to be Made in New Mexico during the Next Year

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

says That Estimates of Improvements Covering \$2,000,000 Have Been Submitted to Congress.

New Mexico has a natural interest in that part of the report of the Secretary of Agriculture which is devoted to permanent improvements on the Government's National Forests. Such work as the construction of miles of road and trail, telephone lines, drift and pasture fences, ranger houses and barns, has opened up and improved many square miles of territory in the ten National Forests in the State, and for these and similar purposes \$31,463.51 was spent during the last fiscal year.

Fifty-two and three-fourths miles of road and 236-3/4 miles of trail were built, 41 miles of telephone lines were strung, and the forest ranges were improved by the construction of 58-1/2 miles of drift fence and 61-3/4 miles of pasture fence. During the year 28 houses, to be used for ranger quarters, and 8 barns for rangers' horses were built and various miscellaneous improvements were made. Many additional improvements are planned. In speaking of the permanent improvement work on all the National Forests, the Secretary of Agriculture has the following to say in his annual report:

"The agricultural appropriation of 1908 included an item of \$500,000, which was made available for permanent improvement work on the National Forests. The object of this work is to help open up the Forests to more use and provide means for their better and more economical protection, through the supply of means of communication and transportation, well-located field quarters, fire lines, fences to assist in the handling of stock, and watering places. Those improvements are essentially investments of capital, which add greatly to the value and usefulness of the Forests.

"The work completed during the year included 3,400 miles of trails, 3,200 miles of telephone line, 100 miles of wagon road, 40 miles of fire line, 250 bridges, 550 cabins and barns, and 600 miles of pasture and drift fences. In addition to the sum provided by the special-improvement fund, over \$100,000 from the general fund of the Service was turned from current expenses to defray the cost of this work, but much of the work planned and urgently needed could not be carried out because there was nothing with which to pay for it.

"Detailed estimates covering a total of \$2,000,000 for permanent improvements, which it was desired to complete in 1909, were submitted to Congress. They showed for the entire amount exactly what it was proposed to undertake on each National Forest, and at what cost. The amount provided by the appropriation was \$600,000. For 1910 estimates will again be submitted for permanent improvements, the cost of which aggregate \$974,981. These estimates are the result of specific and fully itemized plans, which are on file in the Forest Service. They are in no sense a request for a lump sum, the spending of which remains to be planned in detail after appropriation is made. It is of urgent importance that this work should be provided for.

"Though the construction of permanent improvements entails the need of provision for their maintenance, the added efficiency of the Forests as economic resources secured through these improvements richly repays the cost. With the National Forests as with any other resources, their returns depend on the extent to which development takes place through judicious outlays of capital. If the land is not to remain a wilderness it must be made serviceable to the needs of civilized man by constructive expenditures.

NEWS ITEMS FROM RESERVE.

The Chieftain's Regular Correspondent Sends List of Interesting Occurrences.

Following is a summary of the week's events at Reserve, sent by the Chieftain's regular correspondent.

Mr. and Mrs. Ab Alexander passed through town Sunday on their way to the home of Mrs. Alexander.

School closed Thursday for the holidays.

Augie Kiehne was a visitor in town Sunday.

Mr. Taylor of Durfee's Well is around town at present writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Chess Carpenter visited Mrs. Lulu Hudson Sunday.

Mrs. Montague Stevens made one of her rare visits to town Tuesday.

The weather here has been very cold with some snow the first part of the week.

There will be a dance in town Christmas night.

Reed Dean returned from Magdalena Wednesday.

The scarlet fever scare has developed into nothing serious around here.

Edna Earle returned to her home in Luna a few days ago.

Mrs. Ada Morley returned to the Datils Saturday. She will go from there to Socorro.

Lee Baldwin was out to the saw mill Sunday.

CITY OF SOCORRO IN 1891

An Interesting Editorial Telling of the Condition of the Gem City Years Ago.

The following editorial from a column of the Chieftain of December 25, 1891, is now of special interest as telling of the condition of the Gem City at that time:

"With this issue of the Chieftain our work for 1891 will close. During the past year Socorro has improved very perceptibly. The fire clay works have been established, the Rio Grande smelter has been enlarged and improved, arrangements have been made for a bridge over the Rio Grande at this point, and the building of the School of Mines is up and about under roof. Many new dwellings and store buildings have been built; there has been no factories. Two new banks have been established and one newspaper, and yet Socorro is a very quiet little city. Our merchants report that trade has not been so good for years as it has been this fall. This speaks worlds of good cheer for Socorro, and to those who find fault and grumble, we will say, there are many places that make more pretensions that are not half as good towns as Socorro."

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Card of Thanks.

The Sisters of Loretto wish to acknowledge most gratefully the generous gifts bestowed upon them by their friends, and, in return, beg the Divine Infant of Bethlehem to grant them a special blessing for every one of the three hundred and sixty-five days of the coming New Year.

Hon. H. O. Bursum came home Thursday from his sheep ranches in the Oscuras to spend Christmas with his family.

THE ENTERTAINMENT

Given in the Opera House Wednesday Evening Was a very Gratifying Success.

NETTED \$50 FOR NEW PIANO

And Everybody Who Attended Is Satisfied That He Got His Money's Worth.

The musical and literary entertainment given at the opera house Wednesday evening by the teachers and pupils of the public schools for the purpose of raising money to pay for the new piano recently purchased for school use was well attended and greatly enjoyed, and was also a gratifying success financially. The pupils all did well in the parts assigned them and many complimentary expressions were heard concerning their training and aptitude. The net receipts amounted to \$50, leaving \$90 yet to be raised to complete the payment. The teachers of the public schools wish to express their hearty thanks to all those who helped in any way to make the entertainment a success.

PROGRAM OF EXERCISES.

Following is the program of exercises as rendered:

Overture—"Silver Star"..... Orchestra
March—"Sword of Honor"..... Orchestra
"The Darlings of the Year"..... By Twelve Boys
"Santa and the Mouse"..... Rafael Lopez
Play in Two Acts—"Santa Claus"..... By Four Pupils
"A Merry Christmas"..... Burriss Potts
Drill—"Topsy Turvy"..... By Eight Pupils
"On Christmas Day"—Samuel Zimmerly
"Be Happy Today"—By Four Boys
Quadrille—"Mother Goose"..... By Twelve Pupils
Waltz—"True Eyes"..... School Orchestra
March—"College Girls"..... School Orchestra
"A Home Made Santa Claus"—By Twelve Pupils
"My Santa Claus Letter"—Stanley Mayer
Dialogue—"Casamiento por Anuncio"
Speech on Statehood—Willard Hill
"Las Pelonotas"—Por Dos Niñas
"Twilight Dream"—Orchestra
Dialogue—"Waiting for the 2:40 Train"
"The Irish Student"—By Three Boys.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a cross-cut is being made in the Hop Canon, Magdalena Mining District, Socorro county, New Mexico, its purpose being to develop the mineral veins on the following mining claims: Slide Rock No. 1, Slide Rock No. 2, Slide Rock No. 3, Slide Rock No. 4, Slide Rock No. 7, Slide Rock No. 8, Slide Rock No. 9, Slide Rock No. 10 and the Ethel, Sara, Jennie, and Emma claims. The said tunnel begins on Slide Rock No. 1 and extends in a north easterly direction towards the Black Peak. All tunnel rights under the law are claimed and will be maintained.

CALUMET NEW MEXICO MINING CO., By DR. ALEX McCALLUM, President.

MASONS ELECT OFFICERS

Election for the ensuing year last Tuesday Evening, Installation Next Monday Evening.

At a regular communication of Socorro Lodge No. 9, A. F. and A. M., Tuesday evening, officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: H. M. Dougherty, W. M.; E. A. Drake, S. W.; John Greenwald, J. W.; J. P. Chase, Treas.; C. G. Duncan, Sec'y.; W. D. Crabtree, T. The installation of these officers will take place at a special convocation next Monday evening.

For hay or alfalfa in carload lots, actual weight, inquire at Chabon's.

TO CHANGE SCHOOL LAW

Important Recommendations Will Be Made to the Next Assembly by the School Board.

CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOLS

It Will Be Recommended Also That Superintendents Be Elected in the Spring.

A recent issue of the Santa Fe New Mexican contained an article concerning certain proposed changes in the school laws which should be read and pondered by all citizens of the territory who have the welfare of the public schools at all at heart. Rapidly changing conditions in the territory are making some radical changes in the school laws imperative. The New Mexican's article is as follows:

"Among the amendments which will be recommended to the thirty-eighth territorial assembly by the board of education besides those already announced are three which concern vitally the progress of the educational work of the territory. These amendments have not yet been formulated, but are in course of preparation by various attorneys who are acting for those who suggested them to the board.

"One of these is to authorize the consolidation of schools in sparsely settled districts, and to provide for the transportation of pupils who live more than two miles from the school house. This amendment, it is thought, will not only make for a better morale in the schools, but by increasing the number of pupils will make it possible to secure better teachers, a higher and sequential course of study and a longer school term, and at the same time save considerable expense.

"Another is a recommendation which came from certain county superintendents, asking that the elections for superintendents be held in the spring at the same time as the municipal and district elections instead of in November at the time of the general elections. This recommendation was adopted by the board and the superintendent of the schools of Grant county, who was one of those who recommended the change, and who is a lawyer, is preparing the amendments. By electing superintendents in the spring it is urged, the school management could be effectively divorced from local politics. Moreover the superintendent would go into office in August instead of in January and would take up the work from the beginning of the school year instead of in the middle as at present.

"A third proposition which came from business men in different parts of the territory, and which was adopted by the board, is an amendment prohibiting county superintendents from teaching school during the incumbency of their office. There is no prohibition in the present law against their teaching, and many of them have been doing it, notably in Colfax and Otero counties. In view of the fact that the superintendents have to approve all school warrants, it is thought better to make a positive prohibition against their teaching and an amendment to that effect will be offered."

N. P. Eaton left Monday for his ranch in the San Mateos after a business visit of two or three days in Socorro. He said that Mrs. Eaton expected to go to Las Cruces at once to meet their daughter Gertrude, who was attending the Loretto academy, and that they would then go to El Paso to spend the holidays at the home of Mr. Eaton's sister, Mrs. Owens.

County Treasurer Jose E. Torres went up to Santa Fe the first of the week to bring home his two sons Valentine and Estevan, who are students at St. Michael's college, for a holiday visit.

Conrado A. Baca, deputy treasurer and collector, and wife spent Christmas day with relatives and friends in Santa Fe.

\$10,000 ON MOGOLLON ROAD

Socorro County Expected to Contribute toward Building Road between Silver City and Mogollon.

Arrangements for the substantial improvement of the wagon road between Silver City and Mogollon have progressed far enough to make it practically certain that the plans will be executed in every detail. The road is approximately ninety miles long, and it is the intention of the promoters of this much needed improvement to spend \$10,000 to get it in good condition for vehicle traffic. Socorro county is expected to contribute \$2,500, Grant county \$1,500, the merchants of Silver City \$1,000 (\$800 of which has already been pledged), making a total of \$5,000. To this amount \$5,000 will be added by the Socorro Mines Company and Ernestine Mining Company, bringing the grand total up to \$10,000. The plans for the contemplated improvements will be decided upon by a committee of three members from Silver City and three from Mogollon, who will act in conjunction with the boards of county commissioners of Socorro and Grant counties.—Silver City Independent.

ALL HAD TURKEY FOR DINNER

Prisoners at the Pen Also Enjoyed a Full Holiday and a Minstrel Show.

According to the following from the New Mexican, the prisoners at the territorial penitentiary must have enjoyed a Merry Christmas with all the rest of the world:

"Christmas at the territorial penitentiary will bring to the prisoners confined there as much of the holiday cheer as is possible in the circumstances. Capt. John W. Green, superintendent, will give his prisoners a full holiday, and will also feed them with a genuine Christmas dinner of turkey and the usual accompaniments. In the afternoon the prisoners will be entertained by an amateur minstrel show to be given by a troupe of St. John's Methodist Episcopal church of this city.

"The prisoners who are at work on the Scenic Highway will also have a holiday and will have their Christmas dinner in camp. The prisoners at the penitentiary are a cheerful lot under Capt. Green's benevolent and effective rule. They do their work without complaint, and will appreciate the superintendents' efforts to bring into their solitary lives something of the happiness that pervade the world at Christmas."

NEWS ITEMS FROM ARAGON.

The Chieftain Is Now to Be Favoured With Regular Correspondence From Out West.

The Chieftain is now to be favored with weekly items of news from Aragon.

Plenty of snow and cold weather here.

Mrs. Morley visited us Saturday and Sunday.

Erb Wallace was in Aragon Saturday.

John Porter and Joe Porter spent Sunday afternoon with friends in Aragon.

James Patterson is our new mail carrier.

Harry Delgar and A. B. Banta returned Monday from a business trip to Magdalena and Socorro.

Cruz Lopez, who was severely injured by two runaway horses, is now out of danger.

Gus Wheeler was in town Wednesday.

Benj. Sanchez has bought a little span of horses to drive to his buggy.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Sweet and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Sweet and two children, all of Topeka, Kansas, and Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Sweet of Alexandria, Louisiana, are guests in the home of Probate Clerk and Mrs. E. H. Sweet of this city for a few days. The occasion is a family gathering that cannot fail to be greatly enjoyed by all.

PARK HOUSE REOPENS JAN. 1

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Richards Formerly of San Marcial Are Host and Hostess.

The Park House will be reopened for the entertainment of guests on the first day of January. Old-timers who used to stop at this hotel forty years and more ago would hardly recognize it now, so great have been the changes recently made in and about the building. The row of ruined adobe rooms on the north side of the plaza has been torn down and a row of comfortable new rooms has taken its place. A large dining room and kitchen have been built on the south side of the rooms that formerly served as office and dining room, and the whole Park street front of that wing of the building has been substantially rebuilt in brick. Old roofs have everywhere been replaced with new ones of tin. The inside of the building has undergone a no less complete overhauling than the outside. The rooms have been thoroughly repaired and newly furnished. A glimpse at one of them shows that they are in apple pie order. Mr. and Mrs. Richards have an excellent reputation in their line of business and everybody may feel assured that Socorro now has a hotel that will meet all reasonable demands.

MRS. TIBURCIA FLORES DEAD

A Woman Who Had Many Warm Friends in Both Socorro and Magdalena.

The Chieftain is in receipt of the following notice concerning the death of Mrs. Tiburcia Flores, a former resident of Socorro: Magdalena, Dec. 23, 1908.

Editor Chieftain: Mrs. Tiburcia Flores died Monday morning at 8 o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Knoblock twelve miles from Magdalena, where she had been a guest for some time. The cause of the death was nothing more than the infirmities and weakness of old age. Mrs. Flores lived in Socorro a great many years, but lately made her home in Magdalena. In both places she had many friends who will be sorry to hear of her death. Mrs. Flores was good, kind and charitable and well thought of by everybody. She leaves three sons—Estevan of Magdalena, David of San Marcial, and Felix of El Paso.

INAUGURATION, GRAND AFFAIR

Plenty of Money to Make Pageant Greatest in Years—Enormous Crowd Expected.

A press dispatch from Washington concerning the inauguration of President-elect Taft says: "If money has anything to do with making the inauguration a success, that of President-elect Taft on March 4th next will be the greatest the country has ever seen. Already Chairman Giles of the finance committee has in his possession a guaranty fund of \$75,000, which is \$12,000 larger than the amount received four years ago, and it is expected that before contributions cease the fund will be considerably larger.

"The chief source of revenue for the return of this guaranty fund is the inaugural ball, which brought in \$46,000 four years ago, while the income from the reviewing stand was \$20,000. It is expected that there will be at least 200,000 visitors in Washington on inauguration day."

Sr. D. Jose Pino y Baca, an old and highly respected citizen of Socorro, died at his home in the western part of the city Wednesday morning of asthma in the seventy-eighth year of his age. The funeral services Thursday from the residence and the church of San Miguel were attended by a very large number of relatives and friends of the deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Stern and Mrs. Leon B. Stern of Albuquerque spent Christmas day in Socorro as guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Price.